

DESCRIPTION OF A HELICOID LAND-SHELL (*XANTHOMELON
BEDNALLI*) FROM CENTRAL AUSTRALIA.

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XANTHOMELON BEDNALLI, n.sp.

Testa umbilicata, turbinata, solidula, fusco-olivacea; spira modice exserta, coniformis; anfr. 5 tumiduli, sutura valde impressa discreti; primus fere lævis, cæteri lineis incrementi conspicuis oblique curvatis ornati et striis spiralibus irregularibus decussati, ita ut seriebus granulorum sculpti videantur, ultimus inflatus magnus, antice sensim descendens; apertura fere circularis, oblique disposita. Marginibus intus cæruleo-albidis, sat distantibus, callo tenuissimo nitido junctis, dextro expanso et leviter reflexo, columellari valde incrassato, umbilicum latum pervium partim obtegente. Diam. maj. 22·5 mm., min. 17·5 mm.; alt. 18 mm.

Hab.—MacDonnell Range, Central Australia.

This species was kindly sent by Mr. Bednall, of Adelaide, whose name it has been a pleasure to associate with it. The shells, two adult

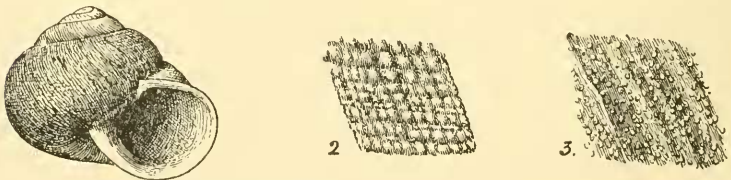


FIG. 1. *Xanthomelon Bednalli*.
 ,, 2. Sculpture of same, highly magnified.
 ,, 3. Sculpture of *X. grandituberculatus*, similarly magnified.

and several young, are related to *Thersites* (*Hadra*) *grandituberculata*, Tate.¹ From it, however, *X. Bednalli* is readily distinguished by its non-continuous peristome, the absence of any flatness of the whorls below the suture, and more especially by the sculpture, which, as will be seen by reference to the accompanying magnified drawing, is quite different to that of Professor Tate's species.

It is understood that the type will be deposited by Mr. Bednall in the South Australian Museum.

As the result of Mr. Hedley's² investigations it appears that the present and similar species should be included in *Xanthomelon*.

¹ Report of the Horn Expedition, pt. ii, Zoology, p. 200, pl. xviii, fig. 11 (1896).

² Op. cit., p. 224.